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GOVERNOR

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JAMES W. HOLSINGER, JR., M.D.
SECRETARY

TO: All Authorized WIC Vendors

FROM: Nancy Sullivan, Supervisor
Vendor Management Section

DATE: September 2, 2005

SUBJECT: Hurricane Katrina

In an effort to address the immediate needs of WIC participants who have relocated to Kentucky as a result of Hurricane Katrina, **you may accept** WIC food instruments that have been issued by the States of Alabama and Louisiana for these participants. This policy will be effective **ONLY** for the month of September, 2005. You are not required to redeem these food instruments, but may do so to help in this effort.

Food instruments from Alabama and Louisiana will look different from Kentucky food instruments. Mississippi does not use a food instrument. Food instruments you redeem for these states must be for the foods specified on the food instrument. This will be a different contract brand formula, and may also be other different foods. Please make sure your staff understands to issue the specified foods.

If you choose to redeem food instruments from Alabama and/or Louisiana, please be careful and ensure the food instrument is completed correctly, as we do not know what procedures will be in place concerning revalidation from the issuing State. Food instruments from Alabama and Louisiana that you redeem should be deposited in your local bank. These food instruments will be processed the same as any other out-of-state check. Payment for these food instruments will be made from the issuing State. We have been informed that payments will be processed in a timely manner.

Participants presenting food instruments from Alabama or Louisiana should be directed to the nearest Health Department for possible WIC certification in Kentucky. Again, this policy is **ONLY** effective until **September 30, 2005**. Should this policy change, we will notify you of any extensions or changes.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at (502) 564-4953 extension 3835.

cc:	Administrators	Peggy Ware
	WIC Coordinators	R.A. Shepherd, MD
	Public Health Nutritionists	Marvin Miller
	Field Staff	Clyde Bolton
	Kentucky Grocers Association	Kentucky Retail Federation